

Page 2
Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A binder arrangement comprising: a) a pair of covers, and a single spine, each of said covers pivotable about said single spine [[a single axis]] into an opposed orientation each hingably carried a predetermined distance from a centerline of a spine each of said pair of covers constructed with a pivoting surface that pivots 90 degrees against each of said hinge and wherein said centerline is located at the midpoint between a first and second side edge;

b) a first set of binders permanently fixed at a location parallel and adjacent to said spine and carried by one of the covers; and

c) a second binder carried by the other one of the covers, wherein both of said first set of binders and said second set of binders is located closer to said centerline than to either of said first or second side edge,

d) wherein said pair of covers and spine are defined by a board that includes a pair of spaced apart integrally formed hinges with each hinge being comprised of a plurality of pairs of scores formed in an interior surface of said board,

e) wherein each score comprises a slit formed in the interior surface of said board that does not extend completely through said board, and

f) wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board.

2. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 1 wherein one of the binders is offset from the other one of the binders such that the binders do not overlie each other when the binder arrangement is disposed in a closed position with one of the covers generally overlying the other one of the covers.

3. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 2 wherein one of said binders is offset relative to the other one of the binders such that one of said binders is spaced farther away from a centerline of said spine than the other one of said binders.

4. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 3 wherein the offset is between one-quarter of an inch and three-quarters of an inch.

5. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 4 wherein the offset is about one-half of an inch.

6. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 1 wherein at least one of said binders has a hold down page that is equipped with a releasable latch that releasably anchors the hold down page to one of said covers.

7. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 6 wherein said latch comprises a latch strap that is carried by one of the covers and the hold down page and a latch receiver that is carried by the other one of said covers and said hold down page.

8. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 7 wherein one of said latch strap and latch receiver comprises a loop strip of a hook and loop fastener and the other one of said latch strap and latch receiver comprises a hook strip of a hook and loop fastener.

9. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 8 wherein said latch strap comprises a strip of fabric to which one of said loop strip and hook strip is fixed and said latch receiver comprises the other one of said loop strip and hook strip fixed to said hold down page.

Page 4

10. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 1 further comprising a case that encompasses the binder arrangement that includes flexible sidewalls that each comprise a skirt that extends along the side edges of each cover with one said skirt releasably attached to the other said skirts by a fastening arrangement that is elastically anchored to said spine by a stretchable gather.

11. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 10 wherein said case houses the binder arrangement, said fastening arrangement comprises a zipper, and said stretchable gather is attached at or adjacent one end to a bottom stop region of said zipper, and said stretchable gather is attached at or adjacent its other end to said spine.

12. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 11 wherein said stretchable gather is comprised of an elastomeric material that functions as a shock absorber during opening and closing of said zipper.

13. (Cancelled) The binder arrangement of claim 1 wherein said pair of covers and spine are defined by a board that includes a pair of spaced apart integrally formed hinges with each hinge being comprised of a plurality of pairs of scores formed in an interior surface of said board.

14. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 13 wherein said board is comprised of a fibrous material.

15. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 14 wherein said board is comprised of kraftboard.

16. (Cancelled) The binder arrangement of claim 13 wherein each score comprises a slit formed in the interior surface of said board that does not extend completely through said board.

17. (Cancelled) The binder arrangement of claim 13 wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board.

18. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 13 wherein each hinge is defined by between five and twelve scores.

19. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement of claim 13 wherein said board is a panel of one-piece, unitary and homogenous construction.

20. (Currently Amended) A binder arrangement comprising: a) a board of one-piece, unitary and homogenous construction that has a pair of hinges each defined by a plurality of pairs of scores formed in a surface of the board, wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board with one of said hinges distinguishing said board into a first cover and a single spine and the other one of said hinges distinguishing said board into a second cover and said spine, wherein said scores are formed distinctively from said spine, each of said first and second cover hingably carried a predetermined distance from a centerline of said spine and pivotable about said single spine [[a single axis]] into an opposed orientation;

b) a first binder permanently attached to one of the covers and extending parallel to said pair of hinges;

c) a second binder permanently attached to the other one of said covers and extending parallel to said pair of hinges; and

d) wherein one of the binders is spaced farther away from a centerline of said spine than the other one of said binders and wherein said centerline is located at the midpoint between a first and second side edge and wherein both of said first set of binders and said second set of binders is located closer to said centerline than to either of said first or second side edge.

21. (Currently Amended) A binder arrangement comprising:

- a) a pair of covers each connected to a single spine by each of said pair of covers pivotable about said single spine [[a single axis]] into an opposed orientation and hingably carried a predetermined distance from a centerline of said spine, wherein said centerline is located at the midpoint between a first and second side edge, a pair of hinges each defined by a plurality of pairs of scores formed in a surface of the board, wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board wherein said pair of covers has a planar surface extending parallel to said hinge, each of said covers being provided on a plane and including an open position, wherein said plane is parallel to said planar surface and a closed position, wherein said plane is substantially perpendicular to said planar surface;
- b) a binder permanently attached to one of said covers and extending parallel to said hinge and wherein said binder is located closer to said centerline than to either of said first or second side edge;
- c) a hold down page carried by said binder; and
- d) a hook and loop fastener hold down page latch arrangement that releasably secures said hold down page to a perimeter of one of said covers while being adjustable to accommodate varying degrees of binder storage volume.

22. (Currently Amended) A binder arrangement comprising:

- a) a pair of covers each connected to a single spine by a hinge, each of said pair of covers pivotable about said single spine [[a single axis]] into an opposed orientation and hingably carried a predetermined distance from a centerline of said spine, wherein said centerline is located at the midpoint between a first and second side edge, and wherein said pair of covers and spine are defined by a board that includes a pair of spaced apart integrally formed hinges with each hinge being comprised of a plurality of pairs of scores formed in an interior surface of said board, wherein each score comprises a slit formed in the interior

Page 7

surface of said board that does not extend completely through said board, and wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board;

- b) a binder permanently attached to one of said covers and wherein said binder is located closer to said centerline than to either of said first or second side edge;
- c) a case that includes a sidewall that extends between side edges of said covers that is releasably secured in a closed position by a zipper; and
- d) a stretchable gather with a strain relief characteristics configured to allow extension or enlargement beyond the limits of the strain relief characteristics of adjacent parts thereof, to dampen the pulling stress of said zipper in an open position, said gather attaches one end of said zipper to said spine.

23. (Currently Amended) A binder arrangement comprising:

- a) a pair of covers hingably carried by a single spine, each of said pair of covers pivotable about said single spine [[a single axis]] into an opposed orientation and hingably carried a predetermined distance from a centerline of said spine, wherein said centerline is located at the midpoint between a first and second side edge, wherein said pair of covers and spine are defined by a board that includes a pair of spaced apart integrally formed hinges with each hinge being comprised of a plurality of pairs of scores formed in an interior surface of said board, wherein each score comprises a slit formed in the interior surface of said board that does not extend completely through said board, and wherein said scores of each hinge define a region of said board that is compressed to a thickness that is less than the surrounding thickness of said board;
- b) at least one binder permanently attached to one of said covers and wherein said at least one binder is located closer to said centerline than to either of said first or second side edge;
- c) a plurality of flexible sidewalls releasably joined by a zipper that has its zipper end stop resiliently anchored to said spine by an elastomeric connector having a

Page 8

strain relief characteristics that resumes its original shape when a deforming force is removed in contrast to the strain relief characteristics of adjacent parts thereof, to dampen the pulling stress of said zipper.

24. (Previously Presented) The case of claim 23 wherein said elastomeric connector comprises a piece of elastic fabric.

25. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement according to claim 1, wherein each of said binders includes a plurality of fastening mechanisms, said binders are fixed substantially hermaphroditical with respect to each other, and each said fastening mechanism on said binders is provided in a staggered position with relation to the opposite said fastening mechanism such that said fastening mechanism do not overlie each other when the binder arrangement is disposed in said closed position.

26. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement according to claim 25, wherein said fastening mechanism includes a paper straightening structure when the binder arrangement is in said closed position.

27. (Previously Presented) The binder arrangement according to claim 26, wherein said paper straightening structure is a linear portion of a D-shape ring.